This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases ~~501 through 926~~ 666 through 685 of a coding region of a nucleic acid molecule (SEQ ID NO: 3) encoding SHH, wherein said compound is an antisense oligonucleotide which comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage and specifically hybridizes with and inhibits the expression of SHH.

Claims 2-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

Claim 7 (original): The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-o-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The compound of claim 1 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (original): A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 13 (original): The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (original): The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method of inhibiting the expression of SHH in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of SHH is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (canceled).